

The Greener Side of Spring...

Spring 2013 Edition

Publication by the City of Muscatine, Solid Waste Division of Public Works



Spring Cleaning Time

Laura Liegois - Solid Waste Manager

Spring is the time for new or the “renewal” of things. It is a time when the flowers bloom and trees begin getting their leaves. It is also a time to clean out the old stuff that may be cluttering up your space at home, the office, your car, or wherever the place may be.

Spring cleanup has a different meaning to everyone. As the Solid Waste Manager for the City of Muscatine, it means that we as a community have a big task ahead of us as we begin up from winter to welcome spring and summer. This includes litter pick up, mulching around trees, raking up the leaves left from last fall, and cleaning out the clutter.

The month of April is a big month for cleanup in the Solid Waste Division of Public Works for the City of Muscatine. It is a month that sees the Compost Site opening up, Spring Cleanup Week being held, and numerous other activities taking place for the betterment of our community.

In this issue of the Greener Side of Spring, you will find ways to participate in events from Spring Cleanup Week for the City of Muscatine and Fruitland to Earth Day. If you do get big on your spring cleaning and have old important documents you would like recycled properly, bring them to the Earth Day celebration on Friday, April 19th, between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Document Destruction will be there to take your documents in locked containers for proper disposal.

For more information on our programs and services, visit www.muscatineiowa.gov. The City of Muscatine's website is filled with valuable information from all of the City's departments. You can also call our office with any questions you might have at 563.263.9689 or send me an e-mail at lliegois@muscatineiowa.gov.

Compost Site

The Compost Site is open from noon to 6 p.m. Sunday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday.

Commercial yard waste businesses may use the site during the hours of the Transfer Station. Yard waste businesses are charged for the use of the Compost Site at a \$5.00 minimum up to \$20.00 per ton for disposal of materials.

Rules for the Compost Site are as follows:

All loads must be secured

- Yard waste - Grass clippings, Leaves,
- Plants grown in Residential yards only
- Brush and Branches (10 inches x 10 foot)
- Larger trees and logs

Residents can also take advantage of wood mulch and compost at no charge. Staff is available for loading Tuesday - Saturday.

Firewood is available for residents to cut. Please stop in the Transfer Station's office to sign a waiver form before cutting firewood. There is no charge for cutting firewood.

Spring Leaf Collection by Public Works



Residents in the City of Muscatine can have leaves picked up the first three Fridays during the month of April, by calling 563.263-8933 to schedule a pickup.

Pickups must be phoned in by Thursdays to get on the schedule for the Friday of the week desired for pickup. All leaves must be raked to the curb, not in the street.

Got Old Paint and Cleaners?

Muscatine County residents can dispose of paints, cleaners, motor oil, and other household hazardous materials at the Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station at no cost.

Interesting Facts on Spring Clean Up Week for the City of Muscatine...

Each year during the last full week of April, the Solid Waste Division of Public Works with the help of a Roadway Maintenance crew pick up everything from couches to televisions.

Items have changed over the years with the addition of electronic waste in 2008. The average yearly cost for Spring Cleanup Week over the past 5 years has been \$85,500.

What exactly is involved in the cost of cleanup week? The cost includes staffing (regular full-time and temporary help). It is common to have 60 people helping to make clean up week happen. It also includes gasoline and maintenance cost, advertising/ marketing for the event, and disposal fees.

Over the past 5 years here are the statistics in what has been collected:

Solid Waste - 2,595 Tons
Tires - 196 Tons
Appliances - 2,347 Units
Electronic Waste - 603 Tons

What happens to all the items that are collected? The items that are considered waste go to the Muscatine County Landfill. Tires, metal, appliances, and electronic waste go to their respective places to be recycled into new products.

Spring Cleanup Week is a large challenge we take on each year, but it is away to provide an opportunity for residents to clean up and help keep Muscatine beautiful.



2013 Spring Clean Up Week

The City of Muscatine and City of Fruitland will in conjunction with Keep America Beautiful Month and Keep Muscatine Beautiful will be having Spring Clean Up during the week of April 22-26, 2013. This is a great opportunity for residents to clean up their yards, basements, and neighborhoods. Clean Up Week is for residents only, **No Businesses**. Place all large unwanted items out the night before your regular garbage day.

Items accepted per address include:

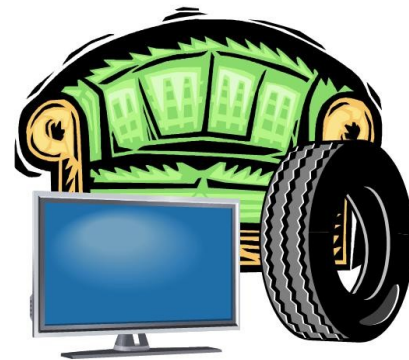
- Large items such as: furniture, building materials in small amounts, dismantled swing sets, and other misc items.
- Up to 8 Tires (Car and Light Truck Tires) - **No Tires From Businesses**
- Up to 4 Appliances (Please remove doors on refrigerators and freezers)
- Electronic Waste (Computers, televisions, and any item that contains a circuit board).

Items NOT Accepted:

- Car bodies
- Large trees
- Excessive amounts of concrete and building materials
- Paint and other hazardous chemicals (Accepted at the Transfer station)
- Motor Oil (Accepted at the Transfer Station)
- Camper refrigerators and Air Conditioners

Yard waste must be in City of Muscatine yard waste bags. Brush must be tied in bundles no larger than 18 inches in diameter and 4 ft. in length.

Questions regarding Spring Clean Up week can be directed to the Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station at 263-9689 or lliegois@muscatineiowa.gov



Education Opportunities

Please join us at the following events:

Friday, April 19, 2013

Earth Day Celebration 2013

4:00-7:00 PM

Discovery Park

3300 Cedar St. Muscatine, Iowa

Thursday, June 20, 2013

Musser Public Library Story Hour

6:30 PM

Muscatine Recycling Center and
Transfer Station

(Join us for the reading of "I Stink" and
see a garbage truck)

Saturday, September 28, 2013

Great Mississippi River Cleanup

9:00 AM - Noon

(Join Living Lands and Waters in clean-
ing up the Mississippi River!)

City of Muscatine Yard Waste Bags

Yard waste picked up by the City of Muscatine
must be in a City of
Muscatine Yard waste bag.

Bags can be purchased at
local retail stores or the
Muscatine Recycling Center
and Transfer Station for
\$1.00 each.



Muscatine Recycling Center and Transfer Station

Monday - Friday: 7:00 am - 3:30 pm

Saturday : 8:00 am - noon

563.263.9689

1000 S. Houser St. Muscatine, Iowa

Recycle the Dress Event - Prom 2013 A Second Year Success !

For the second
year in a row,
Muscatine
County residents
dropped off
dresses they no
longer needed to
the Muscatine
Recycling Center
and Transfer Station.



From February 9 - March
14, 2013, approximately
100 girls received dresses
for prom events in
Muscatine County. Styles
and colors varied in dona-
tions and gave the girls a
wide selection to choose
from. Many happy girls
left with the dress of their
dreams wrapped in plastic,
along with shoes and other
accessories.

Again, the community was very supportive in
providing prizes that were given away in a draw-
ing. Thank you for the following donations:

Lifetime Dentistry

Studio 520

The Elm's

Benjamin William Fix—Salon Incognito

Lia Sophia by Alyssa Jirak

Mary Mason's Alternations.

Thank you also to the ladies who helped make
the event happen:

Marlene Anderson

Connie Doak

Kelly See

Ariana Hartley

Dee Bocchino

Julie Stauffer

Emilee Marler

Kathy Chalupa

Mary Mason

Jessica McGill



Earth Day Celebration

**Kids Activities:
Health and
Environmental**



2013

Join the City of Muscatine, Muscatine County Conservation Board, Muscatine Power and Water, and all of our friends at this year's Earth Day Celebration.



Kids and Adults!
**Take the Rock Climbing Wall
Challenge or jump on the
Green
Bus!**
Sponsored
By:



**Guy and Grill
Hot Dogs
Sponsored by:
MPW**



**Large Equipment
Monsanto
Outreach Trailer
Archery
Fishing**

**Bring Your Important
Documents for
Proper Recycling**



Friday, April 19, 2013

4:00 - 7:00 P.M.

Discovery Park

3300 Cedar Street Muscatine, Iowa

*The Environmental Learning Center will be open until 7:00 pm
on April 19th in honor of Muscatine's Earth Day Celebration*